



Kettering
TOWN COUNCIL

Community • Environment • Heritage

MINUTES OF THE FULL KETTERING TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE TOLLER CHURCH ROOMS, MEETING LANE, KETTERING AT 7PM ON 26TH MARCH 2025

Attendees: Cllr Alex Evelyn (Deputy Mayor) (Chair)

Cllrs Lloyd Bunday, Carolyn Carter, Robin Carter, Dez Dell, Maggie Don, Scott Edwards, Emily Fedorowycz, Clark Mitchell, Mark Rowley, James Towns, Sarah Tubbs, Keli Watts and Bev Wright

Officers:- Martin Hammond and Emma Dezelu

No of Public Present - two

Item No	Item Description
2024/083	Apologies for absence Apologies for absence were received from the Mayor and Cllrs Eve Edwards, Keiron Farrow, Anup Pandey and Martyn York
2024/084	Declarations of Interest Cllr Edwards declared an interest in matters concerning the operation of the Newlands Centre when they arose under item 24/089 below
2024/085	Minutes The minutes of the last meeting held on 19 th January 2025 were approved and signed as a correct record,
2024/086	Public Speakers Notification had been received from Chris McDougall who had asked to speak on item 89 and Adrian Bew who has asked to speak on item 91.
2024/087	Announcements from the Deputy Mayor The Deputy Mayor referred to the fact that this was the last Council meeting for the current Council before the May elections and that 9 councillors were standing down. He paid tribute to the work of all councillors and thanked those standing down for their commitment and contribution to the work of the Council.



	<p>Cllr Don particularly thanked Cllr Watts for her 18 years of service and as Mayor several times and Cllr Evelyn also thanked Cllr Edwards for his similar length of service and his several stints as Mayor.</p> <p>The Deputy Mayor also mentioned</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The success of the first half marathon on 9th March- The well attended Town Meeting on 26th February- The designation of the former Gala Bingo Site as an asset of community value since the last meeting.
2024/088	<p>Announcements from the Leader</p> <p>The Leader also commented on the forthcoming elections and looked back on four years of councillors working together and collectively for the town and thanked all members for their contribution.</p> <p>.</p>
2024/089	<p>Crime and anti-social behaviour</p> <p>Sgt Mark Walsh attended to outline crime and community safety measures which the police had or were about to implement in Kettering.</p> <p>Chris McDougall, on behalf of a number of businesses impacted by anti-social behaviour and criminal damage, highlighted the damage that this was doing to the town centre and that there needed to be better enforcement and better alternative activities for young people. Sgt Walsh set out the constraints on the police in policing the whole of the town centre, described work that was being done jointly with NNC wardens and the Youth Offending Service and indicated he could achieve more with more resources.</p> <p>Members asked about better enforcement of the PSPO provisions, the need for better enforcement and better legislation, and how to engage with the most unruly young people involved in offences in the town centre.</p> <p>The clerk described initial action to bring agencies together to deliver youth services which might impact on the problem both in the town centre and elsewhere. He was asked to include Chris McDougall in those discussions.</p> <p>Sgt Walsh was also asked if the police could tackle an emerging problem in the vicinity of Dahlia Rd.</p> <p>RESOLVED to</p>



	<p>a) ask the Chief Constable and PFCC to give more priority to ASB and criminal damage in the town centre,</p> <p>b) to bring the MP's attention to the concerns that exist about the situation and the underlying legislative framework for youth offending and</p> <p>c) develop a youth service proposal to help lessen the impact of ASB on local communities.</p>
2024/090	<p>Presentations</p> <p>Officers gave presentations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- on the half marathon – showing the video made to showcase it- on the Council's work and achievements over the last four years. <p>Within both presentations, officers stressed the valuable contribution members had made to the impact the Council was having and the development of its services.</p> <p>Members thanked the Deputy Clerk for the significant work she had put in to deliver a strong events programme throughout the year, culminating in the highly successful half marathon and agreed a vote of thanks for the whole officer team in recognition of their work to deliver the Council's aspirations.</p>
2024/091	<p>Alexandra Arms asset of community value</p> <p>A report was submitted setting out that the Town Council was being asked to nominate the Alexandra Arms, in Victoria St, Kettering as a potential asset of community value. There was a risk that the pub might close and be disposed of by the landlords if a new leaseholder could not be found to take it on.</p> <p>Mr Adrian Bew spoke to this item, explaining the particular features of the Alexandra Arms which were worthy of retention.</p> <p>Members spoke in favour of the pub's qualities and whilst recognising the limitations of an asset of community value designation in governing the continued opening of the pub,</p> <p>RESOLVED to delegate to the clerk the authority to submit an application to designate the Alexandra Arms as an asset of community value in the event that the pub appears to be in danger of closure or disposal for some other use.</p>



2024/092	<p>NNC Economic Development Strategy</p> <p>A report was submitted incorporating a summary of the draft economic development strategy which NNC was now minded to adopt. Members were being asked for their comments on the strategy, to convey to NNC.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the strategy be welcomed but that the following two points be made to NNC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) the concept of towns specialising in certain roles was probably unachievable and undesirable if it meant that some towns were bereft of some facilities or assets.b) The strategy should give more attention to the need to provide support to existing businesses and improving their resilience.
2024/093	<p>Motion</p> <p>Cllr Mitchell moved and Cllr Don seconded that</p> <p>“Kettering Town Council notes and appreciates the actions of NNC in a recent high profile street trading licensing case. However we note that the case brings into daylight the urgent need for harmonisation of services across the entire authority, with that in mind we will urge NNC to either complete a fair harmonisation process of licence fees across the authority, or that they delegate the processing of these licenses to the respective town or parish councils.”</p> <p>During debate, the mover and seconder agreed to delete the last clause starting “or” and it was subsequently unanimously</p> <p>RESOLVED that</p> <p>Kettering Town Council notes and appreciates the actions of NNC in a recent high profile street trading licensing case. However we note that the case brings into daylight the urgent need for harmonisation of services across the entire authority, with that in mind we will urge NNC to either complete a fair harmonisation process of licence fees across the authority.</p> <p>.</p>



2024/094	<p>Nomination of Deputy Mayor for 2025-6 municipal year.</p> <p>It was moved by Cllr Edwards and seconded by Cllr Rowley that Cllr Robin Carter be nominated as Deputy Mayor for the 2025/6 municipal year and it was</p> <p>RESOLVED accordingly</p> <p>Cllrs Don and Wright abstained on the vote.</p> <p>(It was noted that the new Council after May would determine the way in which Mayoral nominations were to be arranged).</p>
2024/095	<p>Insurance</p> <p>A report was submitted setting out the tenders that had been received to provide insurance for the Council's activities for the coming year and beyond.</p> <p>RESOLVED to accept the revised tender from Zurich Municipal to provide insurance cover for three years from 1st April 2025, at a cost in 2025/6 of £2760.17 and index linked thereafter.</p>
2024/096	<p>Post election arrangements</p> <p>A report was submitted which set out the arrangements proposed to transition to a new Council during May 2025, with the need for a Group Leaders' meetings shortly after the election results were known. In addition, there was a need to ensure sufficient members were available to approve expenditure through the bank account and to agree training arrangements for new and returning members during May.</p> <p>RESOLVED that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Councillors Dell, Don and Evelyn be added to the bank account as authorised signatoriesb) The training plan set out in the report be agreed and that the training be opened up to members of Barton Seagrave Parish Council and other Councils as appropriate.



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2024/097	Planning Committee The minutes and proceedings of the Planning Committee on 12 th February and 12 th March 2025 were reported and noted.
2024/098	Finance and Governance Committee The minutes and proceedings of the Finance and Governance Committee on 22 nd January and 19 th February 2025 were reported and noted.
2024/099	Market and Events Committee The minutes and proceedings of the Market and Events Committee on 5 th March 2025 were reported and noted.
2024/100	Neighbourhood Planning Committee The minutes and proceedings of the Neighbourhood Planning Committee on 30 th January 2025 were reported and noted
2024/101	Town Meeting The notes of the Town Meeting on 26 th February 2025 were reported and noted
	The meeting was closed at 9 pm.

Signed

Date